

Appl. No.: 10/665,910  
Amdt. dated: March 10, 2006  
Reply to Office Action of: December 14, 2005

PATENT

Chen et al. is 2-4. Thus, Chen et al. fails to disclose the critical range for the pH value of 2 or less.

Hashimoto et al. is cited merely for allegedly disclosing an underlayer meeting the process and structural limitations. It does not cure the deficiencies of Shouji et al. and Chen et al.


For at least the foregoing reasons, claim 12 and claims 13-14 depending therefrom are patentable over Shouji et al., Chen et al., and Hashimoto et al.

### CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicants believe all claims now pending in this Application are in condition for allowance. The issuance of a formal Notice of Allowance at an early date is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 650-326-2400.

Respectfully submitted,



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